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attention from those who are interested in the history of that form of composition.

But, if the editor's modest conception of his task led him perhaps to present Sannazaro's biography less impressively than he might, he has, at any rate, made his reader realize fully the influence that the Eclogues themselves have had on subsequent literature. The quotations are necessarily liberal, since many came from rare books, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, etc., that are not procurable from any one library. Of course, in this work of literary ferreting Professor Mustard is a past-master, as well as in tracing the dependence of an author upon his predecessors. Accordingly, the notes abound in citations from classical writers whom Sannazaro imitated. These naturally are taken most frequently from Vergil or from his model, Theocritus. Of other poets Catullus perhaps was oftener in Sannazaro's mind than the annotations lead us to suspect. To me such verses as Eclogue 1. 62, 63, 88, 93 and 2.16 recall respectively Catullus 64.125 and 198, 331, 382-383, 31.2 and 68.25, although I admit I am but an amateur in harkening to literary echoes. Perhaps the refrain of Catullus 64.327, etc., was in Sannazaro's mind, as he penned 5.32 and 36, as well as the intercalary verses of Vergil and Theocritus. Whether our writer was also indebted to Lucian's *Marine Dialogues* might be worth investigating.

In general the commentary suffices, but possibly some of the less usual words of the text should have been translated for the sort of reader who will peruse the Eclogues as a pastime. No school-boy is likely to be corrupted. If he were, I should object to Virgil for Vergil, and such orthographical portents as, e.g. in the Vatican Fragment, *furijs* (28), *medijs* (38), *proijcere* (39). As for Sannazaro's famous villa, should we prefer Mergillina with Professor Mustard (p. 13; but cf. 18), or Mergellina with the Neapolitans? Other editors have given us even Mergogolino and Mergyllina, and the derivation from *mergus* is still in doubt. Finally, without being a mind-reader, the reviewer does not believe that Sannazaro limited the blueness either of the editor's ancestors (3.21) or of the sea-nymphs (4.4) to their eyes. The former were woad-stained (Caesar, B.G. 5.14.2; Martial, 11. 53.1), and how blue the latter were is at least suggested by our poet himself in 5.80. But these are small matters.

Whoever has thrilled with the sight of hundreds of dolphins, the acrobats of the sea, sporting amphibiously in the Mediterranean (1.6; 4.26), or watched the Neapolitan fishermen spreading their nets to dry in the sun and coiling the ropes (1.42-43), or on some hot summer night spied them far off-shore, tricking their prey by the flare of torches (2.5), or visited the towns and villages that like so many brilliant jewels constitute a coronet around the Bay of Naples will read this edition of Sannazaro's piscatory eclogues with all the delights of recognition—there is scarcely an island or locality of classic interest for many a mile around the

Crater which "il nobil Pescator di Mergellina" fails to introduce—and with special gratitude to the scholar who has made the poems accessible in such a tasteful and admirable volume. It should be in the hands of any well educated tourist who climbs the steps of Santa Maria del Parto at Naples, La Chiesa del Sannazaro, to see the monument behind the high-altar to Actius Syncerus, for which the great Cardinal Bembo composed the epitaph: DA SACRO CINERI FLORES HIC ILLE MARONI SYNCERUS MUSA PROXIMUS UT TUMULO.

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CLASSICAL CONFERENCE, NEW YORK CITY, NOVEMBER 28

As announced in THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 8.55, a Classical Conference was held on Saturday, November 28, at the College of the City of New York, in connection with the annual meeting of the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle States and Maryland. Dr. F. A. Dakin of the Haverford School, presided. Since, for reasons for which the Conference was in no way to blame, the meeting was late in starting, the latter part of the programme, which called "for an exchange of experiences in the teaching of vocabulary, syntax, composition and unprepared reading", had to be abandoned. It is quite certain, also, that had there been time, there would have been a vigorous general discussion of the main topic, the Reorganization of Secondary School Latin. On this subject formal papers were read by Dr. Foster, Mr. Breed and Mr. Jenks. Miss Jessie M. Glenn, Miss Theodora Ethel Wye and Professor Knapp also, by previous arrangement, spoke on this topic. It may be possible to present later in THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY parts, at least, of the set papers.

The Conference was encouraging in at least two respects. The attendance was large. The speakers did not rest content with the practice, all too common in classical gatherings of lamenting the unsatisfactoriness of prevailing conditions, but made definite and concrete suggestions for remedy. To be sure, as Mr. Jenks pointed out, some of these definite suggestions had been made long years ago, had been definitely tested, and had as a result been set aside; there is a cycle tendency in such matters, to be seen, for instance, in the increased stress laid recently on sight reading, or, the proposal to substitute other Latin for Caesar, and in the advocacy of the Direct Method. A point urged by one speaker was the need of mutual sympathy and cooperation between the teachers of Latin in the Schools and those in the Colleges; College entrance requirements, it was argued, tend to steady the Latin work in the Schools, and thereby, to defend both Latin and its teachers. Concrete suggestions for betterment of conditions and improvement of work, when submitted by teachers in Schools or Colleges, should be careful and sympathetically examined by the other part of the upholders of Latin.

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